

JACK DOYLE Monroe County Executive

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DOYLE UNVEILS WHITE BENGAL TIGERS AT SENECA PARK ZOO

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today unveiled the Seneca Park Zoo's visiting summer guests, two White Bengal Tigers. The brother and sister team, Kanu and Kaliyani, arrived at Monroe County's Seneca Park Zoo Sunday morning from the Nashville Zoo. Both three-year-old, hand-reared tigers can be observed in the redeveloped visiting animal exhibit that was home to the rhino last summer.

"Bringing animals like these beautiful White Bengal Tigers to our Zoo helps build respect for and understanding of the importance of conserving and nurturing wildlife," said Doyle. "Long term projects under development, like the Asian Forest, will continue to enhance the Zoo permanently. But bringing in animals such as the tigers on a temporary basis provides expanded opportunities for the community to view wildlife they might otherwise not see."

Kanu and Kaliyani will be at the Seneca Park Zoo until October thanks to the following co-sponsors; WHEC TV -10 NBC, Democrat and Chronicle, New York State Fence, Inc., Sage Rutty and the Wolf Group.

"The Seneca Park Zoo Society is excited about the unveiling of our summer visitors," said Bob Ryan, Chairman of the Seneca Park Zoo Society. "Kanu and Kaliyani will awe the crowds as they show off their white coats and blue eyes. The board and staff supports Monroe County's Zoo as it kicks off summer 2000 with two great animals that will provide yet another educational opportunity for the Monroe County community."

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Bengal White Tigers originate in India and when full grown can weigh up to 500 pounds. Adult females generally weigh between 400 and 450 pounds. From a tigers' point of view, no two tigers look alike. Tiger faces each have unique stripe patterns. A white tiger is caused naturally by a mutated gene that appears periodically in the species. White tigers cannot survive in the wild because of a lack of camouflage.

The Seneca Park Zoo hosts between 400,000 and 500,000 people annually making it the most popular family attraction in the County. The Zoo is open every day of the year and is located at 2222 St. Paul Street, 1/2 mile north of Route 104.

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